

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20  
OES-07 EB-08 ACDA-12 DOE-15 SOE-02 COME-00 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 /122 W

-----078059 052019Z /63

R 051840Z JUN 78  
FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2034

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 FLORENCE 0364

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR GARDNER'S MAY 22-23 VISIT TO  
FLORENCE AND BOLOGNA

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR GARDNER'S VISIT TO THIS AREA WAS  
HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL IN COVEYING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TO  
DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCES AT PRESTIGIOUS ITALIAN, EUROPEAN  
AND U.S. UNIVERSITY FORA. IN ADDITION TO CALLS ON  
BOLOGNA AUTHORITIES, VISIT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED BY DINNER  
GIVEN IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR BY TUSCANY REGIONAL PRESIDENT  
LELIO LAGORIO, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM IVP GRANT TO U.S.  
AND BY BRIEF CEREMONY HONORING MEMORY OF SCIENTIST  
GUGLIELMO MARCONI ATTENDED BY LEADING FIGURES OF UNIVERSITY  
OF BOLOGNA. WE BELIEVE CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS OF VISIT  
WAS DUE TO FACT THAT ALL MEETINGS WITH UNIVERSITY  
AUDIENCES WERE BILLED AS ENCOUNTERS WITH QUOTE PROFESSOR  
AMBASSADOR GARDNER UNQUOTE, WITH NO ATTENDANT PUBLICITY  
EXCEPT FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY, FLORENCE . THIS FORMAT  
PERMITTED PRESENTATION OF SHORT REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR  
FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION PERIOD WITHIN CONTEXT OF ACADEMIC  
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS RATHER THAN FORMAL LECTURES PRESENTED  
BY OFFICIAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN ITALY.

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END SUMMARY.

2. LEADING WITH HIS ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS AMBASSADOR  
GARDNER ADDRESSED AN AUDIENCE OF FORTY FULL PROFESSORS OF  
POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE'S  
RENOWNED CESARE ALFIERI FACULTY. THE AMBASSADOR'S TALK  
ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, HELD AT THE CONSUL GENERAL'S

RESIDENCE, WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY THE DIRECTOR AND FOREIGN EDITOR OF "LA NAZIONE" AND MADE NEXT DAY FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES, ACCOMPANIED BY A LONG ACCOUNT OF THE TALK AND A PHOTO OF THE AMBASSADOR. THE AMBASSADOR'S LIVELY CONVERSATION WAS WIDELY ACCLAIMED BY FLORENTINE ACADEMICS AS AN IMPORTANT REVIVAL OF A U.S. DIALOGUE WITH THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HERE.

3. IN A SEMINAR ORGANIZED BY NOTED ECONOMIST ANDREW SHONFIELD AT THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE, ATTENDED BY 25 FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENTS AND PRESIDED OVER BY THE INSTITUTE'S PRESIDENT MAX KHONSTAMM, AMBASSADOR GARDNER DISCUSSED U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY, THIS TIME EXPLORING IN DEPTH READ IN SOME DEPTH FOUR FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS

(EUROCOMMUNISM, THE DOLLAR, NUCLEAR ENERGY AND THE GATT) WHICH TROUBLE U.S.-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. AS THE INSTITUTE HAS AN INFORMAL POLICY OF BARRING ITS DOORS TO DIPLOMATS, IT WAS ESPECIALLY GRATIFYING THAT AMBASSADOR GARDNER'S TALK WAS GREETED WITH ENTHUSIASM BY MOST OF THE FACULTY. A QUESTION PERIOD DOMINATED BY KHONSTAMM AND SHONFIELD, LACKED THE DIMENSION OF STUDENT PARTICIPATION WHICH WE ARE TOLD IS A COMMON FAILING AMONG EUROPEAN STUDENTS.

4. IN BOLOGNA, AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS (SAIS) BOLOGNA CENTER, AFTER A ROUND OF CALLS ON THE PREFECT, MAYOR AND UNCLASSIFIED

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REGIONAL PRESIDENT, AMBASSADOR GARDNER ADDRESSED A STANDING ROOM ONLY AUDIENCE OF MORE THAN A HUNDRED FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENTS, AN AUDIENCE WHICH ALSO INCLUDED A NUMBER OF LEADING ACADEMICS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA. HIS REVIEW OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY DISARMED CRITICS AND DREW SURPRISINGLY LITTLE FIRE FROM THE MIXED U.S.-EUROPEAN AUDIENCE. IN A FOLLOW-UP ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESENTATION, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE STUDENTS HAD BEEN FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S BRIEF FOR U.S. POLICY, WHILE A MINORITY OPPOSED HIS QUOTE WORLD ORDER FRAMEWORK UNQUOTE. THE TALK AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH THE HOPKINS COMMUNITY WAS FOLLOWED BY AN INFORMAL LUNCH GIVEN BY THE CENTER IN THE AMBASSADOR'S HONOR.

5. BOLOGNA VISIT CONCLUDED WITH BRIEF STOP AT HOME OF GUGLIELMO MARCONI, INVENTOR OF RADIO. PRESENT FOR THE VISIT WERE THE RECTOR OF BOLOGNA UNIVERSITY AND SEVERAL LEADING ACADEMIC AND CIVIC LEADERS. CEREMONY CONCLUDED WITH AMBASSADOR'S LAYING OF WREATH AT MARCONI TOMB. THIS TRIBUTE TO ONE OF GREATESTMEN BOLOGNA HAS GIVEN TO WORLD EARNED A PAGE ONE PHOTO AND ARTICLE IN THE BOLOGNA

SECTION OF "IL RESTO DEL CARLINO".

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R 051900Z JUN 78  
FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2035

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 FLORENCE 0364

6. AS TIMING OF VISIT COINCIDED WITH RETURN FROM IVP  
VISIT TO U.S. OF TUSCANY REGIONAL PRESIDENT LELIO  
LAGORIO, A SMALL DINNER HOSTED BY LAGORION IN THE  
AMBASSADOR'S HONOR WAS ARRANGED WHICH ALLOWED BY HIGHLY  
SATISFACTORY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON U.S.-TUSCANY AND  
U.S.-PSI RELATIONS.

7. THE AMBASSADORIAL VISIT TO THE FLORENCE-BOLOGNA  
AREA HAD BEEN RE-SCHEDULED AFTER THE CANCELLATION EARLIER  
IN THE MONTH OF THE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED VISIT DUE TO THE  
TRAGIC SLAYING OF ALDO MORO. THE SUBSEQUENT VISIT,  
PREPARED AT SHORT NOTICE, AND WITH LESS TIME AVAILABLE  
THAN ORIGINALLY AVAILABLE, PRECLUDED THE AMBASSADOR'S  
PARTICIPATION IN AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE  
LAW OF THE SEA ARRANGED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA  
WHICH HAD TO BE CANCELLED. ALSO DROPPED WAS AN OFF-THE-  
RECORD BRIEFING PLANNED WITH THE EDITORS OF "LA NAZIONE".  
WHILE THE REVISED FLORENCE SCHEDULE WENT OFF SMOOTHLY,  
THE CHANGE IN PLAN FOR BOLOGNA LEFT SOME RUFFLED FEATHERS  
WHICH WERE SOMEWHAT CALMED BY THE PROMISE THAT THE  
AMBASSADOR WILL GIVE CONSIDERATION TO PARTICIPATION IN A  
SEMINAR RE-SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER.

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8. THE THREE UNIVERSITY ENCOUNTERS WITH PROFESSOR  
AMBASSADOR GARDNER SERVED TO DEMONSTRATE U.S. INTEREST IN  
THREE IMPORTANT ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND TO CONVEY TO  
THEIR FACULTIES AND STUDENT BODIES A RATHER COMPREHENSIVE  
VIEW OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.  
GORDON

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## Message Attributes

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